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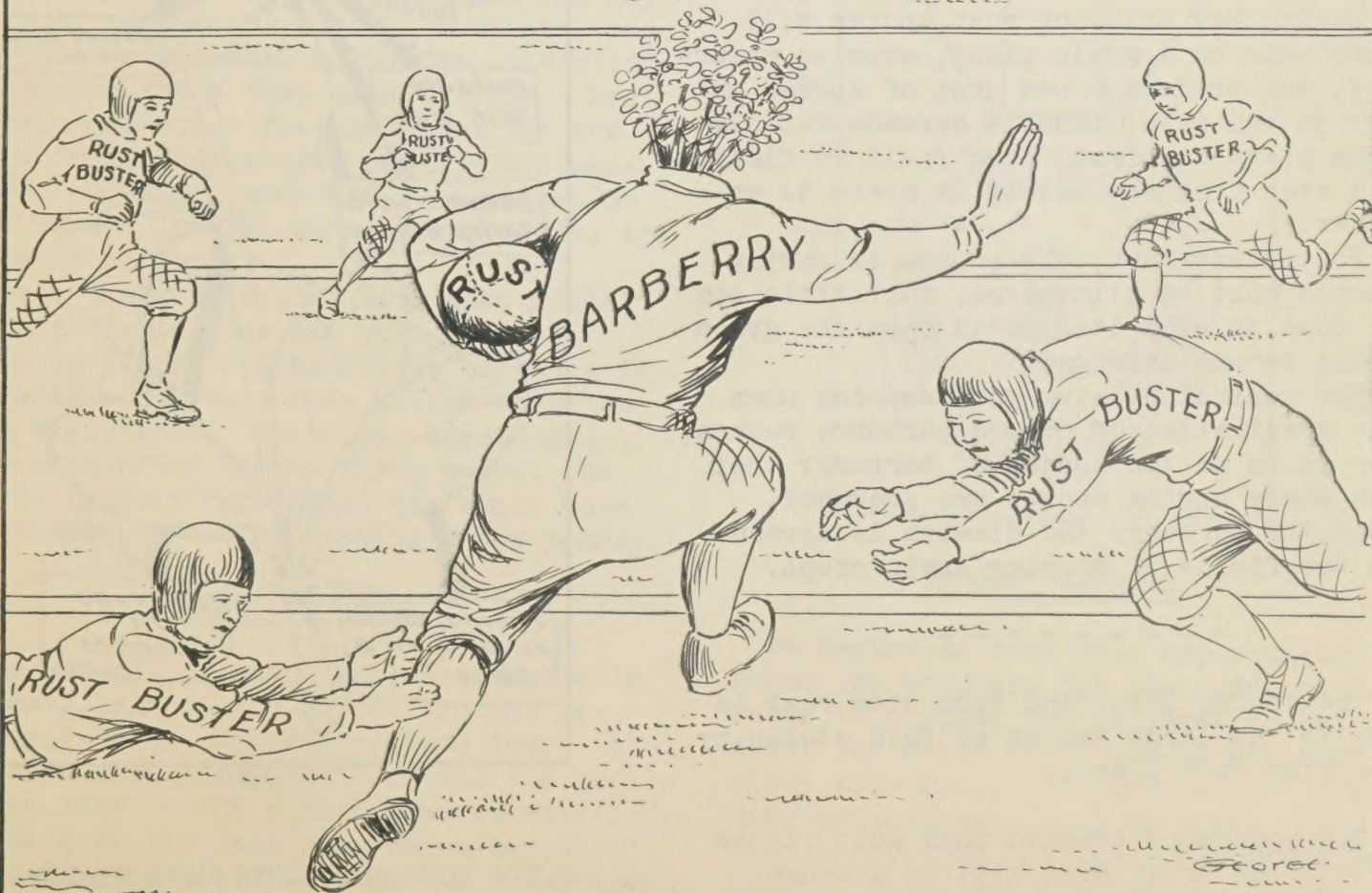


# THE MINNESOTA RUST BUSTER



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SPRING INFECTION  
OF GRAIN



## THE MINNESOTA RUST BUSTER

Spring, 1935

Circular Letter for Minnesota  
boys and girls who are interested  
in Black Stem Rust Control.

Issued by  
Division of Plant Disease Control  
Bureau of Entomology & Plant Quarantine  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
University Farm St. Paul, Minn.

L. W. Melander  
Associate Pathologist

### WEATHER AND STEM RUST

All plants need moisture, light, plant food, and favorable temperature in which to grow. Stem rust of wheat, oats, barley, and rye is no exception. It is a tiny fungous plant that reproduces by means of spores which correspond in function to the seeds of higher plants.

During May and June rust spores will germinate on a grain plant, grow to maturity, and produce a new crop of spores in six to ten days; thus it spreads rapidly from plant to plant, from field to field, and even from one county or State to another.

To prevent rust, the source of spring spores must be eliminated, for little can be done to stop its spread once the grain crops become infected.

The control of stem rust depends upon the eradication of common barberry bushes, for it is on the leaves of barberry that the early spring spores are produced. From the barberry the disease is spread to the fields of growing grain crops.

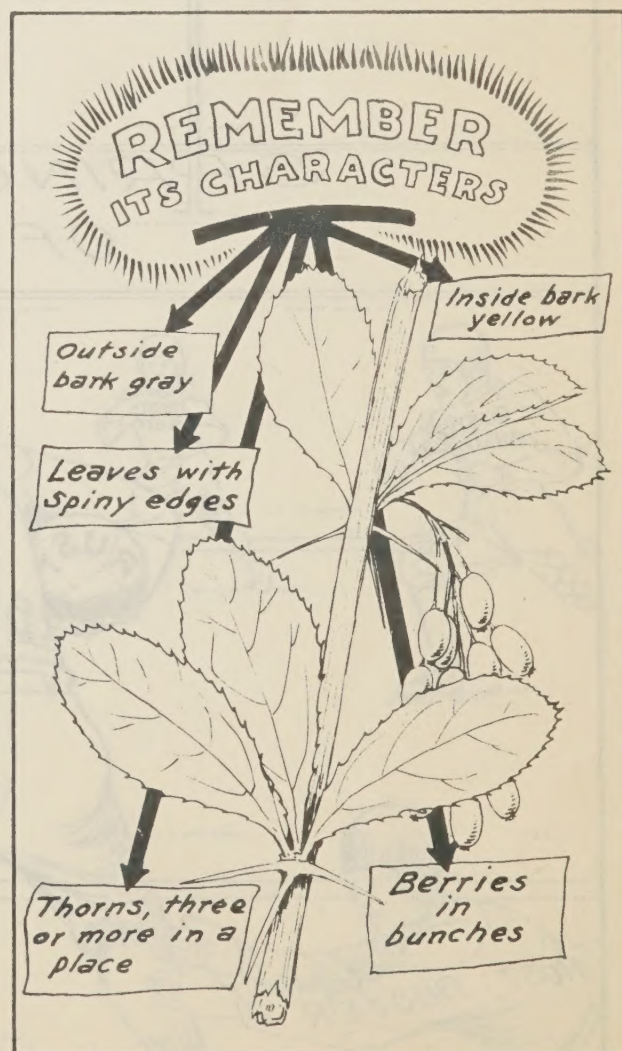
The injury resulting from stem rust is due to the large amount of food stolen by the tiny rust plant.

Ten pounds of crushed rock salt placed around the crown will kill an average sized barberry bush.

### OLD TIMERS!

Many Rust Busters have continued to look for barberry bushes over a period of years. Just recently we received several reports from Dakota County where the boys and girls became Rust Busters in 1929. There also have been many reports from young people who have become members more recently.

When reporting bushes you think are rust-spreading barberry be sure to send a twig for identification.



2,374 BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE QUALIFIED  
AS MEMBERS OF THE N.R.B.C.



#### CHECK OLD LOCATIONS OF BUSHES

Barberry bushes developing from seeds scattered by birds and other agencies may be found almost any place. Woodlots, pastures, stream banks, hillsides, and cliffs are places where they usually grow. Most of the barberries that are reported are found in lightly wooded or cut-over pastures. Have you searched such places on your farm? Are you sure no barberries are to be found there?

After barberry bushes have been killed watch for seedlings and young bushes. There is always a possibility of seeds in the soil not having been killed when the bush was salted. These may sprout and grow even after two or three years. Be on the lookout for them. One small bush may reseed an entire area in a few years.

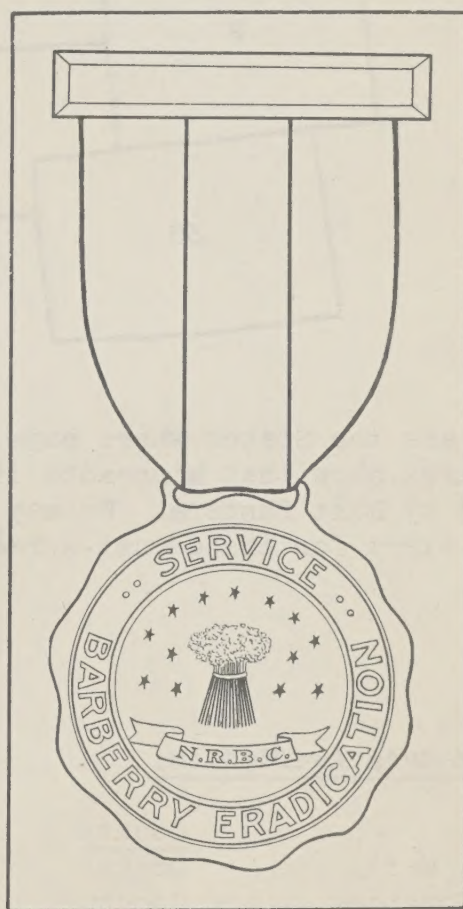
#### ESSAY CONTEST

The schools of many counties compete in contests held in the School Exhibit Department at the Minnesota State Fair. One of these is a "language" contest for pupils of the seventh and eighth grades, entitled "Black Stem Rust and the Common Barberry". Literature that will aid you in the preparation of your papers is available in this office. Do not hesitate to write for it.

Rust Busters and their parents have reported at least 80 percent of the bushes found in the course of the survey in Fillmore County. This shows that not only the Rust Busters have looked for barberries, but they have enlisted the aid of their parents.

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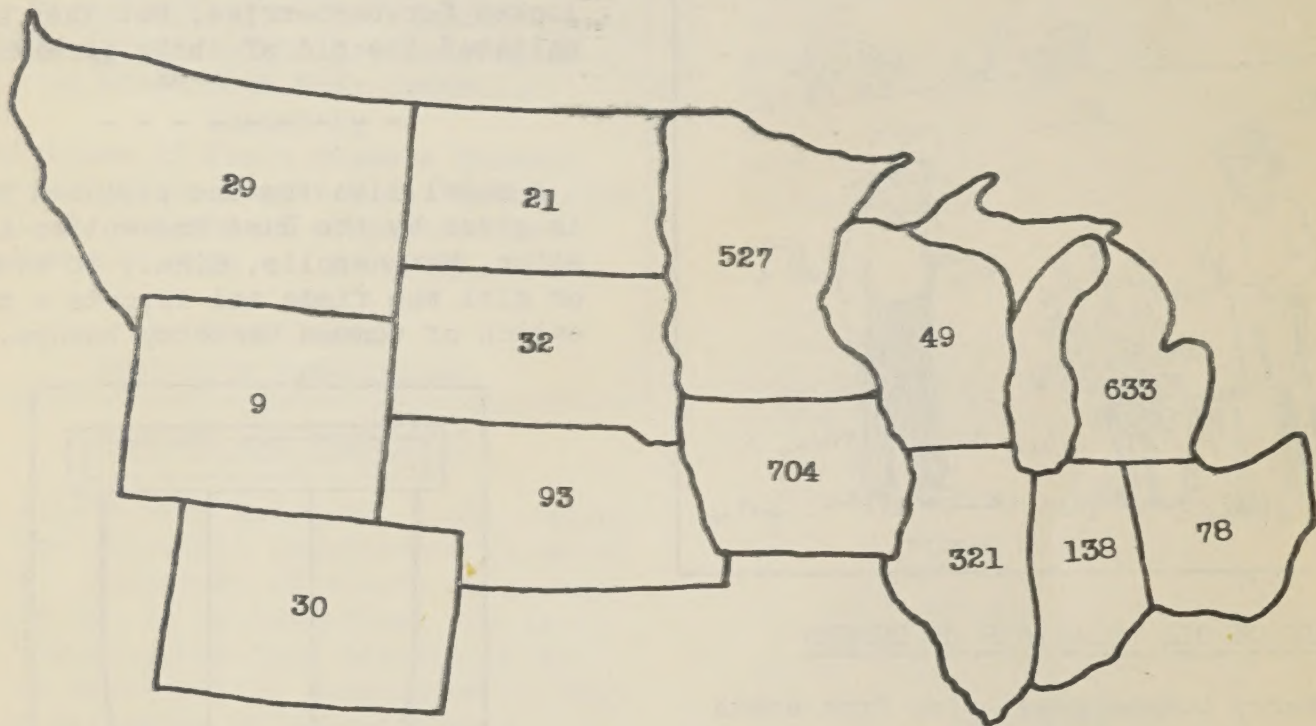
A medal like the one pictured below is given by the Rust Prevention Association, Minneapolis, Minn., to every boy or girl who finds and reports a new location of common barberry bushes.



#### TO THE TEACHERS

We desire to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for their splendid efforts in helping the children to learn about the relation of common barberry to black stem rust. You have helped develop many enthusiastic Rust Busters. This is demonstrated by the large number of barberries found and reported to the Barberry Eradication Office by school children.

CAN YOU NAME THE 13 STATES THAT ARE PROTECTING GRAIN CROPS FROM RUST?



These are the States where boys and girls are looking for rust-spreading barberberries. The figures show that Minnesota is third in the total number of locations of bushes reported by Rust Busters. We may get into the lead if each boy and girl keeps constantly alert for these rust-spreading bushes.

THE HONOR ROLL

Gold Medals Awarded to:

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Ervin D. Marti	Dodge
Thomas Comstock	Goodhue
Albert Lee Oliver	Olmstead
Alice Wilson	Anoka

Fourth Degree Bars Awarded to:

Ervin D. Marti	Dodge
Gordon Partington	Dakota
Alice Wilson	Anoka
Thomas Comstock	Goodhue
Albert Lee Oliver	Olmstead
Lloyd O. Bly	Fillmore
John P. Huettl	Blue Earth

Silver Medals Awarded to:

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>
Reynolds H. Schultz	Goodhue
Albert Lee Oliver	Olmstead
Ervin D. Marti	Dodge
Thomas A. Comstock	Goodhue
Paul Bean	Olmstead
John P. Huettl	Blue Earth
Gordon Partington	Dakota
Alice Wilson	Anoka
Glenn Smith	Anoka
Kenneth D. Hadland	Fillmore
Lloyd O. Bly	Fillmore